



General Assembly

***Substitute Bill No. 6576***

*January Session, 2001*

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM  
FOR PRIMARY CARE CLINICIANS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 19a-7d of the general statutes is repealed and the following  
2       is substituted in lieu thereof:

3       (a) The Commissioner of Public Health may establish, within  
4       available appropriations, a program to provide three-year grants to  
5       community-based providers of primary care services in order to  
6       expand access to health care for the uninsured. The grants may be  
7       awarded to community-based providers of primary care for (1)  
8       funding for direct services, (2) recruitment and retention of primary  
9       care clinicians through subsidizing of salaries or through a loan  
10      repayment program, and (3) capital expenditures. The community-  
11      based providers of primary care under the direct service program shall  
12      provide, or arrange access to, primary and preventive services,  
13      referrals to specialty services, including rehabilitative and mental  
14      health services, inpatient care, prescription drugs, basic diagnostic  
15      laboratory services, health education and outreach to alert people to  
16      the availability of services. Primary care clinicians participating in the  
17      state loan repayment program or receiving subsidies shall provide  
18      services to the uninsured based on a sliding fee schedule, provide free  
19      care if necessary, accept Medicare assignment and participate as a  
20      Medicaid provider. The commissioner may adopt regulations, in

21 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish eligibility  
22 criteria, services to be provided by participants, the sliding fee  
23 schedule, reporting requirements and the loan repayment program.  
24 For the purposes of this section, "primary care clinicians" includes  
25 family practice physicians, general practice osteopaths, obstetricians  
26 and gynecologists, internal medicine physicians, pediatricians,  
27 dentists, certified nurse midwives, [nurse practitioners and] registered  
28 nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, physician assistants and  
29 dental hygienists.

30 (b) Funds appropriated for the state loan repayment program shall  
31 not lapse until fifteen months following the end of the fiscal year for  
32 which such funds were appropriated.

**PH**            **JOINT FAVORABLE SUBST.**